

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/808,672

Examiner

Jerry Martin Blevins

Applicant(s)

SCHWIEBERT ET AL.

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed April 18, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-10 and 12-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

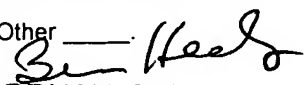
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


BRIAN HEALY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2812-883

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 18, 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see pages 5-7, filed April 18, 2006, with respect to claims 2-10 and 12-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 2-10 and 12-20 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-10 and 12-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 2, US Patent to Brezina et al., number 6,540,414, teaches a fiber optic module, comprising an electromagnetic interference (EMI) shield (Figures 9-11, element 16) comprising conductive contact fingers (Figures 9 and 10, element 17 and column 11, lines 26-45); and a first housing (Figures 1-4 and 7, element 10). Brezina

Art Unit: 2883

does not teach a conductive mesh. US Patent to Matsuzaki et al., number 5,386,345, teaches an EMI shield (Figure 4) comprising a conductive mesh (element 4) defining small openings (diamond shaped openings) that shield EMI and at least one large opening (8) that allows a connector (Figure 5, element 12) to pass through the conductive mesh. Although the connector of Matsuzaki is not a fiber optic connector, the opening allows for the passage of a fiber optic connector. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Brezina with the conductive mesh EMI shield of Matsuzaki. The motivation would have been to improve efficiency and reduce costs of the EMI shield. Neither Brezina nor Matsuzaki teach a housing insert molded with an EMI shield. Furthermore, Brezina, taken alone or in combination with Matsuzaki, fails to disclose or render obvious a housing insert molded with an EMI shield. Rather, Brezina teaches a hollow EMI shield designed to be slipped over the front end of a housing (column 11, lines 17-25), while teaches an EMI shield screwed into a housing (Figure 5).

Regarding claim 12, Brezina teaches a method for making a fiber optic module, comprising forming an electromagnetic interference (EMI) shield (Figures 9-11, element 16) comprising forming conductive contact fingers (Figures 9 and 10, element 17 and column 11, lines 26-45). Brezina does not teach forming a conductive mesh.

Matsuzaki teaches an EMI shield (Figure 4) comprising a conductive mesh (element 4) defining small openings (diamond shaped openings) that shield EMI and at least one large opening (8) that allows a connector (Figure 5, element 12) to pass through the conductive mesh. Although the connector of Matsuzaki is not a fiber optic connector,

Art Unit: 2883

the opening allows for the passage of a fiber optic connector. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Brezina with the formation of the conductive mesh EMI shield of Matsuzaki. The motivation would have been to improve efficiency and reduce costs of the formation of the EMI shield. Neither Brezina nor Matsuzaki teach the step of insert molding a housing with an EMI shield. Furthermore, Brezina, taken alone or in combination with Matsuzaki, fails to disclose or render obvious insert molding a housing with an EMI shield. Rather, Brezina teaches a hollow EMI shield designed to be slipped over the front end of a housing (column 11, lines 17-25), while teaches an EMI shield screwed into a housing (Figure 5).

Claims 3-10 are allowed based on their dependence from allowed base claim 2.

Claims 13-20 are allowed based on their dependence from allowed base claim 12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerry Martin Blevins whose telephone number is 571-272-8581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

Art Unit: 2883

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMB


BRIAN HEALY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT ~~288~~ 2883